

D.C. Radio School Acquired For Stock by McGraw-Hill

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McGraw-Hill, Inc., announced yesterday it will exchange \$10 million worth of stock for the National Radio Institute of Washington, a 54-year-old electronics correspondence school.

NRI, founded in 1914 by James E. Smith, sells home study courses in servicing radios, television sets and other electrical appliances and communications equipment. It will operate independently as a unit of the McGraw-Hill Book Co.

Morrison Smith, son of the founder and president of the company, said the institute has about 32,000 students, most of them in the United States but some all over the world. He said the institute receives, grades and returns about 600,000 lesson answers from students annually.

James E. Smith, who is 87 years old, said, "I feel it's a

very good deal. We couldn't afford to turn it down, and the institute will be run as it always has been."

40 Get Stock

Morrison Smith declined to say how many shares of the institute are outstanding. There had been 21 shareholders, all members of the Smith family, until yesterday, when 40 employees were given stock.

Last year McGraw-Hill acquired another Washington correspondence school, Capitol Ra-

dio Engineering Institute. A spokesman for McGraw-Hill said the two do not compete because CREI trains professional engineers while the National Radio Institute provides vocational courses.

James Smith came here from New Hampshire in 1907 to teach steam engineering and applied electricity at McKinley Technical High School.

He introduced radio as part of his course there in 1909 and the study of wireless throughout the Washington high schools in 1912.

During World War I he supervised Army classes in wireless and was the co-inventor of the natrometer, an instrument used in teaching radio code.

School Organized

In 1914 he organized the National Radio School but continued teaching at McKinley until 1918. The school was incorporated as the National Radio Institute in 1920, and Smith served as president until 1936.

Robert Slaughter, executive vice president of McGraw-Hill, said as far as he knew there had been no contact between McGraw-Hill and either the Justice Department or the Federal Trade Commission over possible antitrust aspects of the merger.

"It's fair to say that with any merger this (antitrust action) is a consideration," he said.

Slaughter added that NRI "is a new field for us. It offers courses that are strictly on the vocational level. We do not offer courses on this level" through Capitol Radio.